Strengthening Intelligence Agencies to Forewarn Communal Riots

4004. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps contemplated by the Government for strengthening the Intelligence Agencies to warn to State Governments before the out-break of any communal riots/acts of terrorism in the State;

(b) whether the Government propose to organise conventions/seminars, etc. promoting communal harmony in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Public order is a State subject. However, the Central Government has from time to time issued guidelines to the State Governments to promote communal harmony which, inter-alia, include the role of intelligence agencies. The Central Government also shares its intelligence with the concerned State Governments for prevention of communal violence.

Similarly, whenever there is information regarding terrorists activity, the information is shared with the concerned State/UT Governments.

(b) and (c) Under the National Integration Council Scheme, the Government gives grants-in-aid to voluntary organisations/ institutions who come forward to organise seminars, group discussions, cultural shows and inter-community celebrations of national days/festivals, etc. for the cause of promoting communal harmony and national integration.

Ongoing Irrigation Projects in West Bengal

4005. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the ongoing irrigation projects in West Bengal;

(b) the amount of Central assistance provided therefor during the last three years; and

(c) the time by which those projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (c) A statement giving details of appraised on-going Major and Medium irrigation projects of West Bengal is attached.

(b) No Central assistance has been provided to any project during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91.